

As implement

25 November 1981

NOTE FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

Bob,

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[redacted] came to me and described this problem in fairly general terms and I am afraid I must accept responsibility for his note to you, which I suggested. It seems to me there are two ways of handling these military requests:

- One way would be to proceed as Mac proposes. This would provide one focal point that could coordinate tasking among different CIA directorates and offices. The physical disadvantage is that when CI Staff moves downtown, it will be inconvenient to continue doing this. A bureaucratic disadvantage is that this involves an Intelligence Community Staff office doing internal tasking within CIA and coordinating CIA responses. This is an unusual arrangement and one that probably would not go down very well.
- A second approach would be for the DDO front office to receive all such tasking from DoD, assign appropriate tasking within the DDO or, when appropriate, DDS&T and NFAC. The DDO then would collate and coordinate responses to Defense and be responsible for sending them directly to Defense. The disadvantage here has been the distinct lack of interest and skill on the part of the DDO front office to coordinate and communicate effectively outside tasking within its own organization, much less work done by other directorates.

From an institutional standpoint, I believe DDO should be assigned this responsibility--although I wish I had more confidence they would do it well. I do believe Mac would do the job as it should be done; I just think he probably is not in the right position to do it.

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[redacted]

Robert M. Gates

STAT

Can/could

[redacted]

*do it? Certainly
could fix it
a try. Probably better
than the other
two alternatives*

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